

ANIMAL  
RESCUE  
LEAGUE  
of BOSTON



**2021**

**GRATITUDE  
REPORT**





## RADAR'S STORY

This sweet boy came to ARL with a diagnosis of congenital megaesophagus, a condition that can affect appetite and the ability to eat.

Radar's unique condition meant he needed a dedicated and patient family to accommodate his needs. After over two months in our care, Radar found a loving family ready to care for his special lifestyle.

**Thank you for making Radar's happy ending possible.**

## Our Mission

We are an unwavering champion for animals in need, committed to keeping them safe and healthy in habitats and homes.

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# ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE of BOSTON



## A Letter from the President & CEO

There are a limited number of words in the English language to express appreciation; gratitude, gratefulness, thankfulness, and indebtedness are all words that come to mind. All of these express how I feel. Because of you, we were able to help a record number of animals in 2021... 23,938. This is even more meaningful as you consider we were still navigating COVID-19 and its impact on program operations and staffing.

I am extremely grateful you chose to make a difference for animals by lending your support to ARL. Two years

ago, we faced a pivotal moment as an animal welfare organization— would we refocus and adapt, responding to the pets and the people that rely on us, or would we retreat, and wait out the unknown? With your support, we mobilized to take action and established innovative programs designed to keep pets happy, healthy, out of shelters, and with their families.

I hope you will see how impactful your support is to the animals and people we serve. Truly, none of what we do would be possible without you.

As you read the animal stories that follow, please know that you are the reason they were given the care they deserve. I am grateful for your continued support, as we remain a vital resource for pets and people when there is no one else to turn to.

With Gratitude,

**Edward Schettino**, DVM, PhD  
President & CEO

**Holiday  
Adopted**

## Board of Directors

Walter Kenyon  
*Chair*

Heather Ridill  
*Vice Chair*

Chris Primiano  
*Treasurer*

Richard Kelly  
*Secretary*

Tara Oliver

Alisa Plazonja

Laura Tomasetti

José Rodriguez-  
Villalobos

Nadine Pellegrini

Rod Macdonald

Renee Knilans

Cindy Kettyle

Edward Bradstreet

Malcolm McDonald  
*Chair Emeritus*

Quentin Faulkner  
*Emeritus Director*

Judy Gregg  
*Emeritus Director*

## Leadership Circle

Barbara Burg

Lisa A. Clifton

Craig Davis

Alison Erbig

Grace Fey

Tony Guthrie

Brian Hyde

Connie Lacaillade

Anne-Marie Litchfield

Allegra Manacher

Randy Mason

Debra & Michael  
McAleer

Avi Nelson

Arthur & Paula Rabe

Patricia Regan

Park Ridill

Sydney B. Rosen

Kim Roderiques

Denise Saltojanas &  
Dr. Stephen Spiegelberg

Jane Urban



*With your support,* significant progress was made towards our five strategic goals, even in the ever-changing climate of the pandemic.



## GOAL

Prevent animal cruelty and neglect by strengthening laws and public policy, and increasing community awareness and action to report and combat abuse.



## PROGRESS

- Increased the number of legislator meetings attended by over 900%, and increased lobbying hours by over 400%.
- Provided training on reporting animal cruelty and how to recognize and report animal abuse to 169 cadets at the Massachusetts State Police Academy.



## GOAL

Grow and refocus programs that are targeted towards animals in greatest need and the people who care for them.



## PROGRESS

- Expanded the service area for the Wellness Waggin' and Spay Waggin' to increase access to care for pet owners in underserved communities, areas that are disproportionately affected by COVID-19.
- Forged new partnerships, including Zoo New England, to bring affordable spay/neuter surgery to residents in the neighborhood of the Franklin Park Zoo.
- Became an official partner of the ASPCA Relocation Program, which is an important way for ARL to help animal organizations in areas with high homeless pet populations and also helps ARL meet the demand for companion animals locally.



## GOAL

Grow volunteer membership and attract and retain a well-trained, committed staff to support program growth and strategic goals.



## PROGRESS

- 1,059 dedicated volunteers contributed over 39,515 hours.
- Grew foster network to 526 families.
- Promoted 11 staff members.



## GOAL

Increase financial resources to achieve a greater impact for animals in need.



## PROGRESS

- Raised more than \$3.3M in public support from 12,417 donors, an increase from 2020.
- Grew individual giving by more than 8%.



## GOAL

Enhance the capacity of ARL infrastructure to ensure the most effective and efficient use of resources for achieving organizations goals.



## PROGRESS

- Finished construction on a new Dedham facility that will increase ARL's ability to coordinate and dispatch services to meet the changing needs of animals through mobile medicine, education, and collaboration. The consolidated facility will also allow ARL to realize immediate and significant cost and operational efficiencies.
- Launched Foundation for the Future, a multi-year capital campaign, to support the new Dedham facility and future infrastructure improvements.
- Coordinated the multisite move of staff from Appleton Street, 10 Chandler Street, the Dedham bungalow, and Carver into our new facility on the Dedham campus.

# ARL Continues Response to COVID-19 Pandemic

While the nation continues to make progress against the pandemic, the impacts continue to be felt throughout the Commonwealth and affect the people and animals that ARL serves.

Despite the ever-changing climate of the pandemic, more than 23,900 animals were helped with your support.

We remain focused on meeting people and animals where they are, bringing veterinary services directly to those who need it most, so that animals are safe and healthy living in communities and out of shelters. Your unwavering generosity allowed ARL's mission to keep pets and people together to remain strong.

In addition to normal operations, ARL continued to provide community support through **Keep Pets S.A.F.E. (Supporting Animals Facing Emergencies)**. In 2020, we realigned efforts and expanded pet supportive services creating this program to provide critical services and supplies to underserved communities caused or exacerbated by COVID-19. **Today, we continue to operate S.A.F.E. and will do so as long as it is needed.**

Thanks to your generosity,  
in 2021 ARL's S.A.F.E. services provided:



162,479

meals to animals  
in need in our  
communities



485

pets and families  
with contactless  
delivery of pet food  
and essential pet supplies



45

animals were placed  
in temporary housing  
and later reunited with  
their families

Three of the animals supported by the temporary housing initiative were Rottie, Cora, and Leon. They came to ARL when their owner had fallen on hard times as a result of the pandemic. The three dogs spent 23 days in our care and then were reunited with their owner. **Thank you for keeping pets like Rottie, Cora, and Leon with their families!**

These accomplishments and positive outcomes were only possible because of you. Your commitment to improving the lives of animals in need meant that ARL could support communities in innovative ways.

Thank you for your unwavering support and kindness.

**Special thanks to our Keep Pets S.A.F.E. collaborators:**  
Action for Boston Community Development, Boston Senior Home Care, Hill's Pet Nutrition, and Loyal Companion.







**23,938**  
ANIMALS HELPED



**2,870**  
animals adopted



**1,833**  
cats



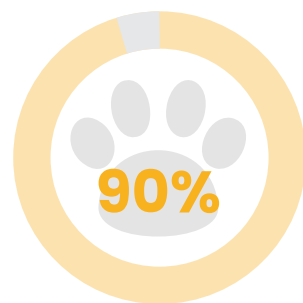
**458**  
dogs



**573**  
small  
animals



**6**  
livestock  
animals



**live release rate**  
(adopted, returned  
to field/owner,  
or transferred)



**601**

**behavior adoptions**  
(animals that require  
additional support to  
prepare them for adoption)



**3,701**  
animals helped in  
law enforcement cases



**3,148**  
shelter animals  
examined

**4,401**

surgeries performed on  
ARL's Spay Waggin'



**3,650**

pet wellness appointments  
performed on the Wellness Waggin'



**Adeline**  
Adopted



# Hug them Today, Help them Tomorrow

Named after ARL’s founder, the **Anna Harris Smith Legacy Society®** is an exceptional group of 145 supporters who are passionate about helping animals now and after their lifetime. Members have chosen to include ARL in their plans as a personal legacy of compassion.

Kathleen Airhart  
John & Anne Marie Allison  
Susan Alt  
Judith S. Anderson  
Katrina Anderson &  
Michael Denomy  
Anonymous (6)  
Pamela B. Bankert  
Larry Barnett  
Jill M. Barres  
Jon Barron  
Nancy Z. Bender  
Harvey Bidwell & Nancy Binner  
Ellen & Mark Borreliz  
Lori Brides  
Caleb & Edward Broach  
Bonnie E. Brown  
Diane M. Brown  
Barbara Burg & Priscilla Golding  
Cynthia Burwick  
Cynthia W. Cadwalader  
Pamela Caico  
Evelyn & Walter Carleton  
Louise H. Cay  
Janice & Karl Cederholm  
Pamela A. Chatis  
Michael & Julie Cicalese  
Pauline Clark  
Tracy E. Clark  
Lisa A. Clifton  
Randi Cohen & Al Ossorio  
Judith & James Connors  
John & Mary Cotton  
Gerald Crown & Paul Dobrowolski  
Rich Davey & Jane Willis  
Christine Ann Del Favero  
Sandra & Douglas Denninger  
Miriam A. Eber  
Patti A. Faff  
Quentin & Violetta Faulkner

Cynthia L. Fawcett  
Tracy Fischer  
Lucille F. Flammia  
Deborah Flynn  
Howard W. Fortner, Jr.  
Kenneth Freed  
Frederick D. Gawron  
Julie Geving  
The Ellen B. Gray Memorial Fund  
Jeremy Griswold  
James E. Gui  
Richard & Lois Hall  
Nancy & Philip Hamilton  
Elvira Hand  
Carlo M. Hansen  
Nathan S. Hasson  
John & Sherry Hatch  
Richard & Martha Heath  
Ronald Heinrichsen &  
Henry Anderson  
Jean S. Higgins  
Graham & Nicki Hird  
Judith Horgan  
Doris Hughes  
Mary Lou Hughes  
Brian Hyde & Joe Fiorello  
Sandra Ilgen  
Jeanne Isenstein  
Harold K. Isham, Jr.  
Holly Kaiser  
Walter & Elizabeth Kenyon  
Barbara W. Kidder  
Jan Kinkopf  
Lee Ann & Michael Leahy  
Carol A. Legere  
Ellen V. Leon  
Joann M. Lindenmayer  
Anne R. Lindsay &  
Dr. David J. Schwarz  
Anne-Marie & William Litchfield

Janice Litwin & Alan Wichlei  
Stanton A. Lyman  
Nancy A. MacArthur Keefe  
Erin V. MacKeseY-Topp  
Kathleen & Norman MacLeod  
Leslie R. Mahn  
Rose B. Mandelbaum  
Lisa Mankita Fay  
Sharon J. Matland  
Malcolm McDonald &  
Susan Passoni  
Thomas P. McIntyre  
Kelly & Brian McKernan  
Kate Merritt  
Laurie Messikian  
Paula Minihan  
Sarah A. Montano  
Florence J. Myerow  
Mary Jane Niemann,  
in honor of  
John & Mary Neimann  
Mary M. O’Connell  
John & Mary Parker  
Joanne R. Penta  
Julie & Laura Polvinen  
Deborah E. Poto  
Lorraine Ramsay  
Wallace R. Rockwell, Sr.  
José Rodríguez-Villalobos &  
Christopher Lapan  
Brenda Rosenberg  
David Rosenthal  
Cassie Ryan  
William J. Salem  
Shira Sands  
Lynne Schlossberg  
Kelly Scott  
Barbara J. Servis  
Jacqueline Seuss  
Paul S. Silva

D. Brenton Simons  
Nancy & Ted Smethurst  
Roberta Solomon  
Dr. Stephen Spiegelberg &  
Denise Saltojanes  
Catherine St. Clair  
Elaine M. Stout  
Sarah Sullivan  
Susan Swanson  
Marna H. Terry  
John L. Trepaney  
Nicki Tripodes  
William Troiano  
Cynthia I. Tulloch  
Charlotte G. Ventola  
Evelyn Vigo  
Deborah M. Walsh  
Deborah J. Washburn  
Chris Waters  
Teri F. Weidner  
Christopher White & Angela Wehr  
David Wisholek &  
Christopher McBride  
John & Patricia Worden  
Louise & Kurt Wulff  
Mamie Wytrowal &  
David J. Caponera  
Susan A. Yaucoes  
Richard & Elizabeth Young  
Shari C. Zalkind

For more information  
about the Anna Harris  
Smith Legacy Society,  
visit [arlboston.org/ahsls](http://arlboston.org/ahsls)



# Anna Harris Smith Legacy Society® Spotlight:

## Angela Wehr & Christopher White

While Chris White and Angela Wehr may not have been born in Massachusetts, the two share a very sentimental connection to Boston. The two met 4 ½ years ago on Boston Harbor where they both sailed (and would later realize their love of sailing was not their only shared interest). Their sailing club paired them up on the same boat one day, and the rest was history!

Chris grew up an Air Force “brat”, moving throughout the country, but he has called Boston home for the last twenty-five years. Chris grew up as an animal lover, but he never had a cat until he began looking for a feline companion for his rescue dog, Tasha. Chris was initially hesitant about adding a cat to his home, having heard the myth that all cats are aloof. However, that all changed when Chris visited ARL’s Boston location and met Shadow. She was feisty and sassy, and a perfect match for Chris and his pup Tasha.

Meanwhile, Angela grew up in rural Virginia, eventually moving to Boston for her pharmacology career. Sadly, Angela lost her

beloved cat shortly after she moved to Boston. She was not immediately ready to adopt another cat, so she decided to reach out to ARL to become a foster parent for cats in need. Angela fostered a variety of cats, including under-socialized “Tiny Tiger” kittens. Eventually, Angela fell in love with one of these tigers and became part of the “foster-fail” club by adopting her foster kitten Clooney.

Chris and Angela’s shared selfless nature is just part of what makes the two a perfect pair. They believe in giving back and paying it forward to causes that are close to their hearts. For them, ARL was involved in how their family began, so it makes perfect sense to include ARL in their legacy planning. And by committing to gifts during and after their lifetime, Chris and Angela will help ensure that ARL’s important efforts to help animals will continue.

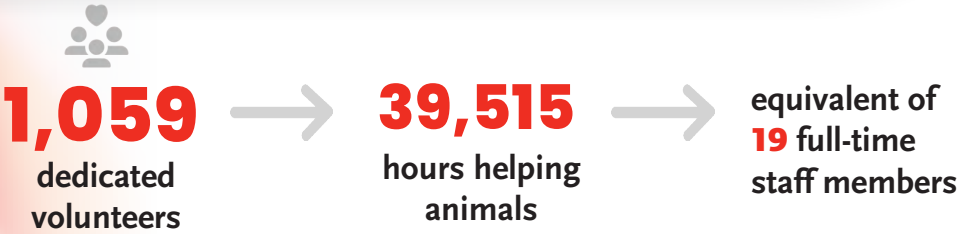
While the couple supports and champions all of ARL’s work, they find the humane law enforcement department and their ability to

handle difficult cases particularly impressive. They saw first-hand the incredible work the ARL team does when they fostered Aurora, a Maine Coon cat rescued from deplorable conditions.

Animal cruelty breaks the couple’s heart, so they commend ARL’s efforts to raise awareness, advocate for laws that better protect animals, and prevent abuse and neglect. Chris and Angela later adopted Aurora.



# THANK YOU volunteers & fosters!



## Thank you to our volunteers and foster parents!

Your dedication and commitment to helping animals is outstanding. You muck horse stalls, change litter boxes, carry out administrative tasks, and perform countless other selfless acts of kindness through your volunteer duties every day. ARL would not be what it is without you.

Interested in learning more about ARL's volunteer opportunities? Visit [arlboston.org/volunteer-foster](http://arlboston.org/volunteer-foster)



## Volunteer Spotlight: Terry Snow

ARL Brewster volunteer Terry Snow is no stranger to the power of the human-animal bond. Before retiring and moving to the Cape with her husband, Terry co-founded BINA Farm Center, a therapeutic horseback riding facility. There, Terry taught horseback riding to children with a wide range of medical disabilities, and was continually amazed by the joy and comfort these gentle giants could bring to the kids. This is one of Terry's proudest accomplishments, that even after she retired and moved to the Cape, the program she built has continued to thrive and serve the community.

When Terry settled into her new Cape home, she was looking for ways to continue to be involved with her community and help others experience the joy of the human-animal bond. That was when one of her friends (also an ARL volunteer) recommended volunteering at ARL.

Two and a half years later, Terry volunteers three to four days a week at our Brewster Animal Care and Adoption Center. She is the go-to animal enrichment provider and can usually be seen throughout the shelter equipped with a myriad of items for the animals, including puzzle toys, cat wands, snuffle mats, and more - it is quite a sight to behold!

Terry's patience and kindness make her the ideal person to provide the shelter animals with much-needed socialization and stress relief. Terry explains, "Now that I am retired, I have all the time needed to just be there for the animals. If they need someone to just sit on the floor for an hour and just let them grow their trust with people, I am happy to do that."

Terry believes animals are always communicating with us, if you are open enough to try to figure out what they are telling us. It's no wonder Terry's friends and family have dubbed her "the animal whisperer!"

Terry's intuitive and attentive nature has been a significant asset to our Brewster Animal Care team. In fact, she has recently joined ARL's Mod Squad, a special group of highly trained volunteers who work with our behaviorally-challenged animals. Terry was also part of Brewster's core group of volunteers reporting for shift during the



pandemic when ARL had to reduce the number of staff and volunteers in the building during the stay-at-home order, helping to provide vital care to the animals that were in ARL's care at that time.

Throughout Terry's service, she has seen many animals come through our doors, but the ones that stand out the most are the ones that we were able to be reunited with their families after hardships or being lost. Terry fondly remembers animals like Neville, a five-year-old cat who was brought to the Brewster Animal Care and Adoption Center by a Good Samaritan and reunited with his owner – just in time for Christmas! These are the stories that are closest to Terry's heart- keeping families together with their pets. We are so thankful that Terry is able to help ARL facilitate happy reunions like Neville's and so much more through her dedicated service.





# Paws to Celebrate

## 100 Years of Helping Animals on Cape Cod

For more than a century, ARL is proud to have served as a dedicated resource for the Cape, providing compassionate care to animals in need. While locations, staffing, and services have evolved, we have remained committed to serving animals in need, keeping them safe and healthy in the communities where they live. We were so excited about this important milestone, that we celebrated for a year!

This past September, Cape-based supporters gathered at two **Paws to Celebrate** events to celebrate the centennial. Both events featured an exclusive documentary from photographer and documentarian Kim Rodriques titled,

*The Way Home: A Century of Finding Loving Companions for Shelter Animals.* A true celebration of the human-animal bond, the documentary showcases stories of animals and the families who adopted them from ARL. From dogs and cats to donkeys and geese, Cape residents share the impact of their companions on their lives and their deep connections to ARL. It is full of tales of unconditional love, growth, and happy memories, and evokes both laughter and tears with beautiful stories woven by Kim and brilliantly captured by cinematographer Geoffrey Basset.

As a companion piece to the documentary, Kim published a photo book also titled, *The Way Home*, featuring a collection of images related to ARL's rich history on the Cape, as well as photos of animals that have been adopted from the Brewster Animal Care & Adoption Center. The book's production was graciously sponsored by Agway of Cape Cod, and raised over \$5,000 for animals in need!

**Thank you to all of our wonderful supporters who helped us celebrate!**

Top to bottom, left to right: Peter & Connie Lacaille; Denise Fritschy; Kim Rodriques & Dr. Edward Schettino; Jim Chapin, Mary Nee, & Walter Kenyon.



### SAMUEL & SAGE

When Bridgewater Animal Control came across these abandoned three-week-old kittens, they reached out to ARL for assistance.

The neonatal kittens were taken to our Dedham Animal Care and Adoption Center where they were bottle-fed, received veterinary examinations, and then sent to a dedicated foster home.

Your generosity made it possible for these kittens to receive the round-the-clock care they desperately needed to stay safe and healthy until they were old enough to be adopted.





## Foster Spotlight:

### Alexis Sprowl

Twenty-four-year-old Alexis Sprowl is a shining example of how one person can make a tremendous impact on animals in need. Though she just started fostering for ARL in 2021, the ripple effect of her dedication can be felt throughout the organization.

Alexis' love for animals run as deep as her Massachusetts roots. Dogs were a constant presence in her adolescence through her family pets and her father's work as a dog trainer.

While a student at UMass Amherst, Alexis volunteered to train service dogs for a nonprofit based in western Massachusetts. In addition to this volunteer work, Alexis also volunteered for a therapeutic horseback riding facility, helping care for the horses providing lessons to students with physical or developmental disabilities.

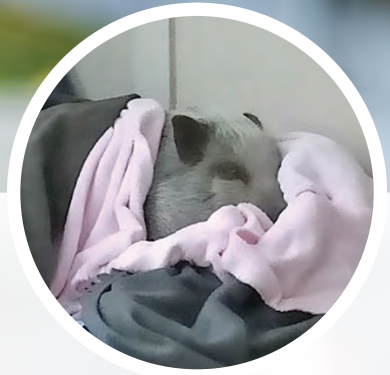
When COVID-19 first hit, Alexis, like many others, started looking for ways to help those in need. ARL stood out to Alexis because of the foundational intersection of human and animal services. Alexis says, **"ARL is not just a shelter, it is a resource for the community"**.

Though Alexis loves all animals, she really has a soft spot for an underdog. This selfless compassion for dogs most in need makes Alexis the perfect foster parent for some of our more difficult foster cases.

Law enforcement cases involving animals can take a long time to resolve, so having a foster who is able to provide that animal with a safe place to land while they await release to adoption is absolutely invaluable. Foster homes reduce stress for the animals and allows them some reprieve from shelter life. At the same time, it opens up the facility to care for more animals in need.

While tough, Alexis finds working with animals from law enforcement cases very rewarding. Alexis describes her current foster dog as "a totally different dog" than the one she met on the day she picked her up. Once anxious, mouthy, and overexuberant, her foster dog has transformed into a more calm, relaxed, and well-behaved dog.

Alexis said simply providing her foster with comfort was the biggest factor in alleviating her behavioral challenges. By removing the variables of shelter life that may cause stress, her foster dog has been able to blossom into a much happier animal. Alexis never expected to see her impact so clearly and directly as she has with her foster's improved behavior and demeanor. Even the animal care staff in our shelters have noticed the stark change in her foster dog, and are so thankful to Alexis for championing her progress.



## VIOLET

Violet was a social media sensation in 2021 when her story of overcoming anxiety and depression, after being surrendered, reached worldwide audiences.

After over 7 months in ARL's care, a Virginia family saw her story on the news and decided to give her the second chance she deserved.

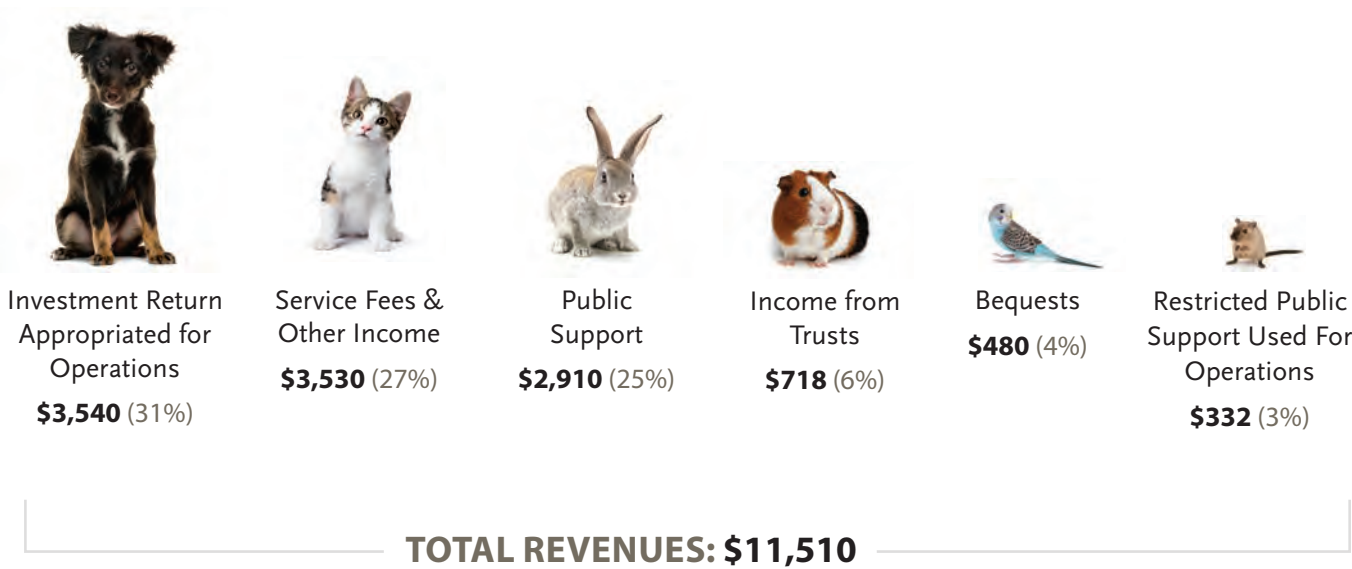
Your generosity allowed Violet to receive the time, love, and care she needed to prepare for a new home. Thanks to you, Violet now spends her days roaming a spacious farm, enjoying the company of her farm friends, just where she belongs!



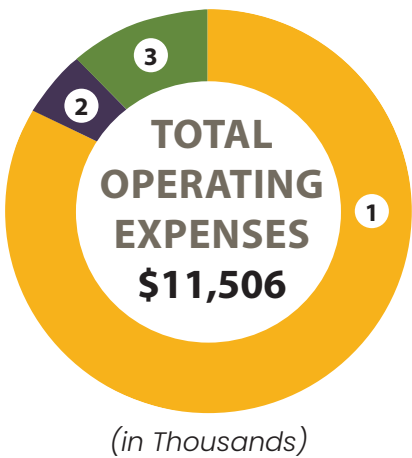
# Summary Financial Statements

(in Thousands)

OPERATING REVENUES



OPERATING EXPENSES



- ① Program Services: **\$9,238** (80%)
- ② Fundraising: **\$656** (6%)
- ③ General and Administrative: **\$1,612** (14%)

We continue to manage our resources prudently. We received a clean audit with no management findings from our independent auditors, AAFCPAs.

Audited financial statements are available on our website. You may also request a copy of these statements by emailing Jackie Smith at [jsmith@arlboston.org](mailto:jsmith@arlboston.org)



## CHRISTINA

Christina, a cockatiel, was found as a stray on a cold day in October. She was underweight and suffering from some feather loss.

Your generosity made it possible for Christina to receive the medical care she needed. Christina made a full recovery as well as a lasting impression on our staff with her sweet personality and unique pink crest feathers on her head!



# Thank you to our Champions Circle

**The Champions Circle is a special group of over 860 dedicated donors who pledge their support with recurring contributions.**

Their reliable generosity provides animals in need with the care they deserve and the second chances they need all year long.

During a year of constant change, unwavering support from Champions Circle members helped provide animals in need with the care they needed including food, sanctuary, medical care, emergency rescue, and most importantly, love.

**To all of our Champions Circle members, thank you!**

To view a complete list of our Champions Circle Members, please visit [arlboston.org/champions](http://arlboston.org/champions).

## JOIN THE CHAMPIONS CIRCLE

Contact Derek Stemmler  
at [dstemmler@arlboston.org](mailto:dstemmler@arlboston.org)  
(617) 226-5662 or visit  
[arlboston.org/champions](http://arlboston.org/champions)



**Dino**  
Adopted

## Donor Spotlight:

### Kim & Scott Fluhrer

Kim Fluhrer and her husband Scott have supported ARL through monthly giving as Champions Circle members for almost ten years, and had been donors prior to that for over twenty years! Kim's intrinsic love of animals motivates her to support organizations like ARL that provide animals with a voice. Kim has a heightened sense of fairness, and wants to see a world with less cruelty to animals and more education. This is exactly why she was originally drawn to ARL through a law enforcement case many years ago.

Both avid animal lovers, Kim and Scott both had dogs growing up, which would later prove to be a crucial component to their coupling when the two met online and Kim's bio read "must love dogs." Together, Kim and Scott currently have two rescue dogs; Ruby, a 13-year-old Husky, and Bowie a 7-year-old Husky. Ruby, like many huskies, is very vocal and not afraid to tell you

what she wants, and Bowie is the ultimate "Velcro dog", following Kim and Scott wherever they go.

Although Kim believes her compassion for animals was something that she was born with, she credits her grandparents for being instrumental in building her empathy to all animals. Kim would eagerly await the monthly edition of *Ranger Rick*, a magazine her grandparents had gifted her, excited to absorb the knowledge that those educational magazines provided.

Today, Kim continues to read and promote educational materials regarding animals. She says that ARL's Coffee & Conversation webinars were a highlight during the darker days of the pandemic.

The Coffee & Conversation Series events are 30-minute virtual sessions hosted on Zoom with ARL staff and other field experts.



These events give a peek into ARL programs and provide an opportunity to learn more about animal-welfare. Kim appreciates these webinars as part of ARL's multi-faceted effort to provide both education and resources to the community.

Kim says as an accountant, monthly giving just makes practical sense. "It is a win-win for both the organization and the donor." As a donor, Kim finds that it is easier to budget a set donation monthly rather than sporadic giving throughout the year. For the ARL, monthly giving provides animals in need with a reliable source of support, which is crucial for operations. Kim feels relieved knowing that her monthly giving provides animals in need with the support they need, year-round.



# Thank you to our President's Council



**Benjamin**  
Adopted

The President's Council is a group of more than 500 astoundingly generous supporters who contribute \$1,000 or more annually to help animals in need. Their generosity provides the critical resources needed to care for animals where they belong, connect community resources, advocate for stronger laws, and raise awareness to prevent animal cruelty and neglect everywhere.

Our work would not be possible without the President's Council – we receive no government grants or public funding and we must rely on the kindness and generosity of our supporters.

**To all of our President's Council members, thank you!**

To view a complete list of President's Council members, please visit the honor roll at [arlboston.org/pc-members](http://arlboston.org/pc-members)



## DON JUAN AND MOTT

Don Juan and Mott originally came to ARL separately but soon became best of friends after spending some time together. Thanks to your support, the 3-year-old duo spent their time lounging and playing with volunteers & staff in one of our many Feline Suites as they awaited their new home.

Your generosity made it possible for these attention-loving boys to find the perfect gift for the holidays – a new home together! Their new owner says the two continue to be BFFs, and even sleep curled up next to each other!



## Donor Spotlight:

### Heather & Park Ridill

The seeds of the Ridill family were planted on a January day at ARL's Boston Animal Care and Adoption Center in 2010 when Heather and Park met Wakefield. The nine-year-old orange and white tabby cat stole their hearts and became an integral part of their family. And, through caring for Wakefield in his senior years, Heather and Park developed a strong dedication to the ARL.

The addition of Wakefield wasn't as simple as falling in love and walking out the door together, because Wakefield was on hold to go home with another adopter. But it seems that things ended up working out just as they should, because while Heather was getting off a flight, she received a call that Wakefield had become available for adoption. She drove straight from Logan Airport to ARL's Boston Animal Care and Adoption Center to take him home!

The Ridills consider Wakefield's addition as the start of their family. The cat brought an immense amount of love and joy to their lives, and even turned Heather, who grew up somewhat afraid of cats, into a total feline fanatic! Heather and Park recall that it was hard



Heather and Park with  
Bergie and Wasque

not to fall in love with his charming personality. Park says, "It is impossible to overstate how impactful Wakefield was in our lives." He was a central support for the couple for many years, joining them through transitions of life, even living with them overseas in London for three years.

But, as Wakefield aged, he developed health problems that came with considerable veterinary expenses. Heather and Park were fortunate enough to be able to handle the expenses, but the couple couldn't help but wonder what decisions they would have faced had they not been prepared for those kinds of costs. This empathy is exactly what led them to become steadfast supporters of ARL's mission to keep pets together with their families.

Since Wakefield's passing, Heather and Park have welcomed more shelter cats into their lives, including a "foster-fail" named Wasque, who was rescued from an overcrowding situation. But Wakefield remains a shining example of the power of the human-animal bond. The love that he provided prompted them to seek out additional ways to support ARL's mission.

The Ridill's relationship with ARL extends far beyond financial support. Park is a member of ARL's Leadership Circle, a group of supporters and volunteers who offer support through gifts of time and talent, in addition to financial donations. And, Heather is Vice Chair of ARL's Board of Directors and serves as Chair of the Investment Committee, positions which allow her to use her professional experience in finance to guide ARL in making sound decisions for the future. These roles allow the couple to become more involved in the work that ARL does.

Heather and Park continue to be extremely passionate about the services that ARL provides to keep pets healthy and happy in their homes. They recognize that sustaining ARL's multi-faceted approach to animal welfare relies on the generosity of our community. Their commitment helps ensure that ARL's programs can continue, pets can stay with the people who love them, and animals in need will always have

a voice. ARL may have provided the seeds for the start of the Ridill family, but in return, and in Wakefield's memory, Heather and Park have helped to ensure the future of ARL with their strong support of animals in need.



*In loving memory of Wakefield*

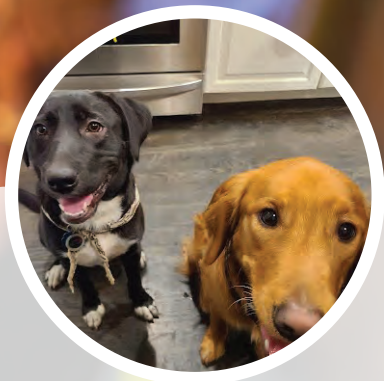


# Trusts and Bequests

The Animal Rescue League of Boston is grateful to be named as beneficiary of more than 21 trusts and to have received 25 bequest gifts from individuals who have left a legacy of compassion for animals.

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## STELLA

Your generosity is vital to animals like Stella. This sweet lady came to ARL over the summer on a transport from an overcrowded shelter in the South. Stella had a tough time attracting the right adopters, as she was dealing with some behavioral challenges. Stella spent over four months in our care looking for a new home.

We are happy to report she has since been adopted and is settling in well to her new home! Animals like Stella are able to get the time, love, and attention they need to prepare for adoptive homes because of you. Her second chance would not have been possible without your help!



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Thank you  
for making  
our work  
possible



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The Animal Rescue League of Boston receives no government grants or public funding (with the exception of limited COVID-19 relief funding) and relies solely on kind supporters like you to provide veterinary care, adoption and rescue services, and special police investigation and advocacy aimed at preventing cruelty and strengthening the laws that protect animals.

## COVID-19 Response

To learn more about how we are responding to the pandemic, please visit [www.arlboston.org/covid-19](http://www.arlboston.org/covid-19)

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The Animal Rescue League of Boston



Animal Rescue League of Boston

## Adopt a Pet

Visit one of our Animal Care & Adoption Centers:

- 10 Chandler Street, Boston, MA 02116
- 3981 Main Street (Route 6A),  
East Brewster, MA 02631
- 55 Anna's Place, Dedham, MA 02026

## Boston Veterinary Care

Make an appointment at Boston Veterinary Care (617) 226-5605 — a clinic with a mission, all profits support the Animal Rescue League of Boston

## Take a Dog Training Class

Visit [arlboston.org/dog-training](http://arlboston.org/dog-training) to enroll your pet and view course schedules

## Get Involved

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## Help an Animal in Distress

Contact Field Services (617) 426-9170 x563

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To leave your legacy of compassion for animals, contact ARL's Development Office at (617) 226-5608